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**Bailey's Evolution of our Native Fruits.**<sup>1</sup>—Though Professor Bailey is a horticulturist and commonly writes for horticulturists, he is well known to botanists as an accomplished botanist. To say that the nine chapters comprised in the present book are devoted to the rise of the American grape, the strange history of the mulberries, the evolution of American plums and cherries, the native apples, the origin of American raspberry-growing, evolution of blackberry and dewberry culture, various types of berry-like fruits, various types of tree fruits, and general remarks on the improvement of our native fruits, tells little of the wealth of detail that it contains. Group after group is monographed, and people in search of disentangled snarls of nomenclatural detail need seek little further than the present work for models of conservative upheaval when upheaval becomes necessary. As to the horticultural side of the book, little need be said: it was written for horticulturists.

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**Poisonous Grains.**—It has long been believed that the fruit of *Lolium temulentum* is poisonous, and chemists have had something to say about its toxic principles. In the *Journal de Botanique* for August, M. Guérin publishes an article embodying the results of a study made at the École supérieure de pharmacie of Paris, in which he records the constant occurrence of fungal hyphæ in the nucellus of the ovule and the layer of the caryopsis lying between the aleurone layer and the hyaline portion of the wall. These hyphæ, which appear not to have been identified with any fruiting form, are referred to as, perhaps, the cause of the toxicity of the *Loliums* in which they occur (*L. temulentum*, *L. arvense*, and *L. linicola*), and they are stated not to have been found in *L. Italicum*, and only once in *L. perenne*. The fungus is compared with *Endoconidium temulentum*, Pril. & Delacr., found in diseased grain of the rye, and believed to be the cause of some of the cases of poisoning attributed to that grain, though it is believed to differ from the fungus named, and the conclusion is reached that, unlike this species and *Claviceps*, it lives in the maturing grain symbiotically rather than as a parasite.

**Botanical Notes.**—The issue of *Möller's Deutsche Gärtner-Zeitung* of October 22 may be called a Clematis number. It is well illustrated and contains a number of articles on the cultivated forms of this attractive genus by well-known writers.

<sup>1</sup> Bailey, L. H. *Sketch of the Evolution of our Native Fruits*. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1898. 8vo, xiii + 472 pp., 125 ff.